

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 14, 2016 – 9:01 a.m.
Collette Building

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Chairperson Dr. Bradley Layfield.

B. Roll Call

The following DIAA Board members were present: Stan Waterman, Matt Donovan, Susanne Williams, Evelyn Edney, Craig Eliassen, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Robert Cilento, Mike Hart, Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, Mike Breeding, Dr. Mark Holodick, Vetra Evans-Gunter, Douglas Thompson, Leroy Mann, Dr. Bradley Bley, Jeremy Jeanne, Gary Cimaglia, Robert Watson and Amelia Hodges. Thomas Neubauer; Executive Director, Laura Makransky, Deputy Attorney General, and DIAA staff Tina Bates were also in attendance. Ted Laws was unable to attend.

C. Welcome New Board Members

Dr. Layfield introduced new Board member Robert Watson, Jr.

D. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Edney and carried unanimously.

E. Approval of Minutes of DIAA June 9, 2016 Board Meeting

Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2016 Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Evans-Gunter and carried unanimously.

F. DIAA Financial Report

Mr. Neubauer reported that the final revenue for FY16 was \$902,187 which exceeded the expenses by \$17,494. Mr. Neubauer had thought after the purchase of the medals that DIAA may finish the year in the red but that was not the case. Mr. Neubauer commented that Mr. Charles retirement fund will be coming out of the budget. Mr. Neubauer commented that DIAA finished the 2016 year in good shape but reminded the Board that because we get no assistance from the state we may be operating in the red at the beginning of the year until we begin to receive tournament revenue. The contingency fund balance is currently \$961,184.83. Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the financial report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Breeding and carried unanimously.

II. Public Comment

None

III. A. Approval of Tournament Sanctions

Mr. Neubauer reported that Mr. Charles reviewed and submitted for the Boards review the requests for sanctioning. Mr. Neubauer stated that to the best of his knowledge the events were in compliance with DIAA and NFHS regulations. Mr. Watson, Jr. made a motion to approve the sanction events. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeanne and carried unanimously.

B. Request to Waive 1009.2.4 by Sanford School for DIAA 2016-7-1

Mr. Waterman recused himself from this hearing. James Vernon; student, Alan Vernon; father of the student (“Father”), and Stan Waterman; Assistant Athletic Director at Sanford School were in attendance to present this request. Student’s father requested an open hearing. Dr. Layfield explained that DIAA is a 20 member Board and has 19 voting members. Dr. Layfield further explained that the law requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting members present in order to pass a waiver request. Dr. Layfield explained that there are 14 voting members participating and present to consider this matter. Dr. Layfield also explained the hearing procedures. The parties confirmed that they understood and wished to proceed. All persons participating in this hearing were sworn in. Dr. Layfield then reviewed all documents pertaining to this hearing and the documents were included in the record.

The hearing proceeded with Mr. Vernon testifying.

Dr. Holodick made a motion to go into deliberations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart and carried unanimously. Dr. Fitzgerald made a motion to come out of deliberations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cimaglia and carried unanimously.

Dr. Holodick made a motion to accept the waiver request based on the testimony and documentation received showing extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the student. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cimaglia and carried by a vote of 15 yes (Donovan, Williams, Edney, Cimaglia, Layfield, Cilento, Watson, Hart, Fitzgerald, Breeding, Holodick, Evans-Gunter, Thompson, Bley, and Jeanne) 0 – no.

C. FY 2017 Proposed Budget

Mr. Neubauer commented that the budget was largely prepared by Mr. Charles however he was prepared to answer any questions.

Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the FY17 proposed budget. The motion

was seconded by Dr. Donovan and carried unanimously.

D. 2015-16 DIAA State Champions in Sportsmanship Awards

Mr. Neubauer reported that there were 21 Award winners for the DIAA Sportsmanship Award. Mr. Neubauer reported that the winners were William Penn High School, Concord High School, Woodbridge High School, St. Marks High School, Sanford School, Sussex Technical High School, Tatnall School, AI DuPont High School, Sussex Central High School, Smyrna High School, Charter School of Wilmington, Tower Hill School, Conrad School of Science, Woodbridge Middle School, Caravel Academy, Lake Forest High School, Thomas McKean High School, Caesar Rodney High School, Springer Middle School, Appoquinimink High School, and Newark Charter School. Mr. Cilento made a motion to approve the Sportsmanship Award winners. The motion was seconded by Ms. Williams and carried unanimously.

E. Application for Associate Membership DISC 2016-17

Mr. Neubauer explained that the Delaware Independent School Conference was asking for Associate Member status as they do each year.

Mr. Jeanne made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mann and carried unanimously.

F. Request for Waiver of 1008.4.3.1 by Colonial and Brandywine Middle Schools

Mr. Neubauer explained that this was an annual request from the Colonial and Brandywine School Districts middle schools to allow their wrestling season to begin early. The date of their wrestling season would be from October 17, 2016 through December 22, 2016. Mr. Neubauer commented that this is very helpful to the officials and also better utilizes the use of their gyms.

Dr. Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Watson, Jr. and carried unanimously.

G. Request for Eighth Graders to Play High School Sports

Mr. Neubauer reported that he has received three applications petitioning for eighth grade students to be allowed to play at the high school level in accordance with DIAA Regulation 1009.2.7.3. A Board member asked if the schools had middle school sports programs in all of the same sports as their high schools. Mr. Neubauer responded that they did not have middle school swimming and diving.

Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the applications received from Sanford School, Tatnall, and Wilmington Friends School. The motion was seconded

by Dr. Bley and carried unanimously.

IV. Executive Director Report

A. Legal -

Ms. Makransky reported that Senate Bill 285 which was signed by the Governor on July 1, 2016 amended 14 Del. C. § 310, the Secondary Interscholastic Athletic Fund.

Ms. Makransky also reported that House Bill 404, The Concussion Protection in Youth Athletic Activities Act, which was passed by the House and Senate in June, notes that DIAA's jurisdiction only applies to member schools and that the bill is intended to establish similar concussion protection standards for youth involved in non-DIAA regulated athletic events.

B. Misc.

Mr. Neubauer reported on the girls lacrosse and softball tournaments.

Dr. Fitzgerald reported on the NFHS Summer meeting in that Jack Holloway, former DIAA Executive Director was inducted into the NFHS Hall of Fame. Dr. Fitzgerald stated that it was a great moment for Delaware and recommended that Delaware be represented at NFHS meetings.

V. Other

Mr. Neubauer presented Sue Coffing and Ron Eby service awards for their service on the DIAA Board of Directors.

VI. Public Comment

None.

VII. Adjournment

Dr. Edney made a motion to adjourn at 10:10 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart and carried unanimously.

Tina Bates